

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

COME-00 EB-11 FMC-04 CG-00 RSR-01 /108 W

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R 050832 Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4610

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 2882

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGSC PBOR, MY, SN, ID

SUBJECT: SAFETY OF NAVIGATION IN MALACCA STRAITS

REF: A. KUALA LUMPUR 2762

B. SINGAPORE 2663

SUMMARY: AT MEETING IN KL JUN 25-26, SINGAPORE, INDOESIA AND MALAYSIA AGREED ON NEED FOR LIMITATION OF DRAFT ON VESSELS PASSING THROUGH STRAITS, ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS TO CARRY OUT FURTHER STUDIES WITH VIEW TOWARD ESTABLISHING TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEME FOR STRAITS OF MALACCA AND SINGAPORE AND TO ESTABLISH A TRIPARTITE BODY TO OVERSEE NAVIGATION IN BOTH STRAITS. MFA OFFICIAL NOTED THAT SINGAPORE'S COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE AT MEETING CONTRASTED SHARPLY WITH THEIR BEHAVIOR A YEAR AGO. END SUMMARY.

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1. MFA OFFICIAL RAZALI ISMAIL JUL 3 TOLD EMBOFF THAT GOM VERY HAPPY WITH CONSTRUCTIVE RESULTS OF RECENT TRIPARTITE MEETING, AND ATTRIBUTED CONTRAST WITH PREVIOUS SESSIONS TO CHANGE IN ATTITUDE OF SINGAPORE. SINGAPORE, WHICH HAD PREVIOUSLY BALKED AT JOINING WITH OTHER TWO IN FORMULATING TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEME (TSS) FOR STRAITS, AGREED AT THIS MEETING TO COOPERATE. A COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS FROM THE THREE COUNTRIES HAS BEEN FORMED TO STUDY ESTABLISHMENT OF TSS FOR SINGAPORE AND MALACCA STRAITS. RAZALI SAID THAT COMMITTEE MIGHT USE FOREIGN EXPERTS AS TECHNICAL CONSULTANTS AND WOULD CERTAINLY WISH TO CONSULT WITH INTERNATIONAL GROUPS SUCH AS IMCO SO THAT FINAL SCHEME WOULD NOT ONLY TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION INTERESTS OF COASTAL STATES, BUT THOSE OF USERS AS WELL.

2. RAZALI SAID THAT THREE COUNTRIES HAD AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO LIMITATIONS OF DRAFT IN VESSELS PASSING THROUGH STRAITS, BUT HAD NOT YET FINALIZED DETAILED TECHNICAL LIMITS. HIS IMPRESSION, HOWEVER, WAS THAT DRAFT LIMITATIONS WOULD BE LESS RESTRICTIVE TO USERS THAN TONNAGE.

3. THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS WOULD ALSO STUDY SUCH ISSUES AS COMPULSORY INSURANCE AND POLLUTION LIABILITY.

RM ACCORDING TO RAZALI, PROPOSED ORGANIZATION FOR COOPERATION AND COORDINATION, MENTIONED MFA COMMUNIQUE

(REF A), WOULD BE OVERALL AUTHORITY REGULATING STRAITS REGIME. HE CONFIRMED THAT DETAILS CONCERNING ITS STRUCTURE, SCOPE AND RESPONSIBILITY REMAIN TO BE WORKED OUT AND THAT ITS CREATION MAY BE OFF SOMETIME IN FUTURE. CHESLAW

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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